

There ain't no justice—

and to prove it . . .

Wycombe Wanderers 2, Dulwich Hamlet 1

RUMOUR has it that the word "justice" is to be deleted from all dictionaries within the boundary of Dulwich, to take effect as from last Tuesday night. And it's hardly surprising, after two typically taken Tony Horseman goals—the latter unkindly planted just 35 seconds before the final whistle—had restored Wycombe Wanderers to the Isthmian League summit, when defeat had stared them in the face for so long.

Now two points clear, having played two more matches than second-placed Sutton, Wanderers were heading for a fall before a bravely methodical Hamlet side.

They even started the slide themselves with an own goal, from their usually so dependable skipper, and centre-half John Delaney.

NIGGLING

With their general less than his normal self due to a niggling ankle injury, the home defence suffered accordingly, and it wasn't quite so easy to laugh off another failure by Wycombe's ailing forward line.

Hamlet, beaten 4-0 in a league game at Champion Hill, and 2-1

at Loakes Park in an F.A. Cup tie in recent weeks, deserved better than they finally got.

Their attack cut deep and quickly through towards Johnny Maskell and both Heasman and Sheppard flick-shot the ball wide of the post inside the opening ten minutes.

Keith Samuels, wielding, like several others upfront, small effect did nonetheless look set to claim on a 14th minute penalty. He was brought down by Bailey inside the Hamlet 'box', but unfortunately had been ruled offside seconds before, and Dulwich were first to score.

Nine minutes from the interval, Deadman booted the ball in from the left; and Delaney, trying to clear, helped it into his own net.

REVERSES

This reverse sent Wycombe reeling, and not before time, exposed the immediate and embarrassing peril they faced.

It could well have been two, but for the prompt action of John Maskell in putting a hopeful boot to Heasman's shot, when the centre-forward needed only to bide his time to make certain just sixty seconds into the new half.

His haste signalled a change round, with Wanderers mounting the first in a series of spasmodic assaults at Overton's net. Fifteen minutes later, their progressive build up paid off, as Horseman flashed onto the ball in front of goal, rounded the goalkeeper, and slotted in an equaliser.

Despite the slight, if extra, urgency shown after half time, Wycombe were never convincing overlords of lowly Dulwich, mainly because of their own flop-finishing.

A weak lob from Dave Thomas

emphasised the point with 15 minutes left, and on full time, Wycombe gave an object lesson on how to lose 20 yards by fiddling around when awarded a free kick.

EXTENSION

The game extended past 90 minutes to cover what seemed a surprisingly long injury time, but many by then were gratefully cutting their losses accepting the half share of the points it had been Dulwich's ill-luck to yield.

Suddenly four minutes past the mark, up popped Horseman to slide through the winning goal... and hapless Hamlet must still be wondering how Wycombe hold top place in the table.

Wycombe: Maskell, Rundle, Gale, Stephenson, Delaney, Thomas, Busby, Baker, Horseman, Faulkner, Samuels. Sub.: Worley (not used).

Dulwich: Overton, Bailey, Baker, Blunt, Firmin, Sheppard, Wyatt, Swan, Heasman, Slade, Deadman. Sub.: Hay (not used).

ISTHMIAN LEAGUE LEADING POSITIONS

(Up to and including Tuesday, Sept. 30)						
	P	W	D	L	F	A Pts
Wycombe Wand.	14	8	2	2	22	10 20
Sutton United	12	8	2	2	30	11 18
Clapton	13	7	4	2	28	22 18
Leytonstone	14	4	4	4	24	11 16
Enfield	11	6	4	1	15	7 16
Barking	13	6	4	3	29	15 16
Hitchin Town	13	5	5	3	24	19 16
St. Albans City	14	7	2	5	19	11 16
Oxford City	14	6	4	4	20	18 16